

- 1        1. A portable basketball goal assembly comprising:  
2              a goal suspended over a playing surface;  
3              a base that rests on the playing surface to support the goal, the base having at least  
4              one motion facilitating member that facilitates relative motion between the base and the  
5              playing surface; and  
6              an anchoring attachment having an anchored configuration in which the anchoring  
7              attachment rigidly attaches the base to the playing surface to substantially restrict motion of  
8              the base with respect to the playing surface, and a free configuration in which the anchoring  
9              attachment does not substantially restrict relative motion between the base and the playing  
10             surface.  
11  
12             2. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 1, wherein the base has a hollow  
13             shape and is formed substantially of a polymeric material.  
14  
15             3. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 1, wherein the motion facilitating  
16             member comprises a wheel disposed to roll along the playing surface.  
17  
18             4. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 1, wherein the anchoring  
19             attachment is configured to threadably engage an anchor disposed within an anchoring hole  
20             of the playing surface.  
21  
22             5. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 4, wherein the anchoring  
23             attachment comprises a head configured to be manually rotated to move the anchoring  
24             attachment between the anchored configuration and the free configuration.  
25  
26

1       6. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 5, wherein the anchoring  
2 attachment extends through a hole of the base.

3  
4       7. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 1, wherein the anchoring  
5 attachment is configured to engage a retaining member anchored within the anchoring hole.

6  
7       8. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 7, wherein the retaining member  
8 comprises an eyelet, the anchoring fastener comprising a hooked shape selectively  
9 engageable with the eyelet.

10  
11      9. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 8, wherein the retaining member  
12 is configured to threadably engage an anchor disposed within an anchoring hole of the  
13 playing surface.

14  
15      10. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 1, further comprising a support  
16 strut with a first end attached to the support pole and a second end coupled to the base,  
17 wherein the anchoring attachment is disposed near a lengthwise axis of the support strut.

18  
19      11. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 9, wherein the second end is  
20 attached to a bracket affixed to the base, wherein the bracket is constructed of a high strength  
21 material.

22  
23      12. The portable basketball goal assembly of claim 9, wherein the anchoring  
24 attachment is disposed near the second end of the support strut.

13. An anchoring assembly for a portable basketball goal assembly having a goal, the anchoring assembly comprising:

a base configured to support the goal above the playing surface;

an anchor that can be anchored within an anchoring hole formed in the playing surface; and

an anchoring attachment coupled to the base, wherein the anchoring attachment is movable by hand between an anchored configuration, in which the anchoring attachment is coupled to the anchor to rigidly attach the basketball goal system to the playing surface, and a free configuration, in which the anchoring attachment is disposed to permit removal of the basketball goal assembly from the playing surface.

14. The anchoring assembly of claim 13, wherein the base has a hollow shape and is formed substantially of a polymeric material.

15. The anchoring assembly of claim 13, wherein the anchor comprises a tubular shape with interior threads.

16. The anchoring assembly of claim 15, wherein the anchoring attachment comprises a straight bolt with a manually rotatable head, the interior threads of the anchor receiving a threaded portion of the straight bolt.

17. The anchoring assembly of claim 15, further comprising an eyelet with a threaded portion, the interior threads of the anchor receiving the threaded portion of the eyelet.

1           18. The anchoring assembly of claim 17, wherein the anchoring attachment  
2 comprises a J-bolt coupled to a manually rotatable head, the J-bolt engaging the eyelet.

3

4           19. The anchoring assembly of claim 13, wherein the base comprises an anchoring  
5 feature that engages the anchoring attachment.

6

7           20. The anchoring assembly of claim 19, further comprising a bracket, constructed  
8 of a high strength material, affixed to the base to retain the anchoring attachment, the  
9 anchoring attachment extending through the bracket and the anchoring feature toward the  
10 anchor.

11

12           21. The anchoring assembly of claim 19, further comprising a bracket, constructed  
13 of a high strength material, disposed to rotate with respect to the base along at least one axis  
14 to movably retain the anchoring attachment, the anchoring attachment extending through the  
15 bracket and the anchoring feature toward the anchor.

16

17           22. The anchoring assembly of claim 21, wherein the bracket comprises a rounded  
18 shoulder with a slot through which the anchoring attachment extends to permit pivotal  
19 motion of the anchoring attachment with respect to the bracket.

20

21           23. The anchoring assembly of claim 19, wherein the anchoring feature comprises  
22 a hole through which the anchoring attachment extends, the hole having a size selected to  
23 permit longitudinal and lateral motion of the anchoring feature within the hole.

1           24. A force transmittal assembly for a portable basketball goal assembly having a  
2 base, a goal, and a support pole extending between the base and the goal to support the goal  
3 above a playing surface, the force transmittal assembly comprising:

4                 a support strut attached to the support pole to receive a tensile load from the support  
5 pole to restrict motion of the support pole;

6                 a bracket constructed of a high strength material, wherein the bracket is coupled to  
7 the support strut to receive the tensile load from the support pole; and

8                 an anchoring attachment coupled to receive the tensile load from the bracket,  
9 wherein the anchoring attachment is anchorable to the playing surface to transmit the tensile  
10 load to the playing surface.

11  
12           25. The force transmittal assembly of claim 24, wherein the base has a hollow shape  
13 and is formed substantially of a polymeric material.

14  
15           26. The force transmittal assembly of claim 25, wherein the bracket is affixed to the  
16 base.

17  
18           27. The force transmittal assembly of claim 24, further comprising an anchor  
19 disposable within an anchoring hole of the playing surface.

20  
21           28. The force transmittal assembly of claim 27, further comprising a retaining  
22 member engageable by the anchor.

1           29. The force transmittal assembly of claim 28, wherein the anchoring attachment  
2 is coupled to a manually rotatable head, the anchoring attachment having a shape selected  
3 to engage the retaining member such that the tensile load is transmitted from the anchoring  
4 attachment to the retaining member, from the retaining member to the anchor, and from the  
5 anchor to the playing surface.

6

7           30. The force transmittal assembly of claim 29, wherein the anchoring attachment  
8 comprises a threaded portion, wherein the manually rotatable head has interior threads  
9 engageable with the threaded portion such that the manually rotatable head can be rotated to  
10 tighten the engagement of the anchoring attachment with the retaining member.

11

12           31. The force transmittal assembly of claim 24, further comprising:  
13                 a second support strut attached to the support pole to receive a second tensile load  
14 from the support pole to restrict motion of the support pole;  
15                 a second bracket constructed of a high strength material, wherein the bracket is  
16 coupled to the second support strut to receive the second tensile load from the support pole;  
17                 and  
18                 a second anchoring attachment coupled to receive the second tensile load from the  
19 second bracket, wherein the second anchoring attachment is anchorable to the playing surface  
20 to transmit the second tensile load to the playing surface.

1           32. A method for manufacturing an anchoring assembly for a portable basketball  
2 goal assembly, the method comprising:  
3                 forming a base with a pole receiving feature and at least one anchoring feature;  
4                 shaping a support pole such that the support pole is engageable with the receiving  
5 feature;  
6                 constructing a goal such that the goal is attachable to the support pole;  
7                 providing an anchoring attachment sized to engage the anchoring feature; and  
8                 providing an anchor sized to engage the anchoring attachment and to be anchored  
9 within a playing surface.

10  
11           33. The method of claim 32, wherein forming the base comprises molding the base  
12 from a polymeric material.

13  
14           34. The method of claim 32, wherein forming the base comprises forming the  
15 anchoring feature as a hole sized to permit longitudinal and lateral motion of the anchoring  
16 attachment within the hole.

17  
18           35. The method of claim 32, further comprising providing a bracket configured to  
19 abut the base to receive the anchoring attachment.

20  
21           36. The method of claim 35, wherein forming the base comprises forming an  
22 indentation of the base, wherein the indentation is shaped to permit fixation of the bracket  
23 to the indentation.

1           37. The method of claim 35, wherein forming the base comprises forming an  
2 indentation of the base, wherein the indentation is shaped to permit rotation of the bracket  
3 within the indentation to permit relative motion between the base and the anchoring  
4 attachment.

5  
6           38. The method of claim 32, further comprising providing a retaining member  
7 anchorable by the anchor.

1           39. A method for installing a portable basketball goal assembly, the method  
2 comprising:

3                 forming an anchoring hole in the playing surface;

4                 positioning the base such that an anchoring feature of the base is substantially  
5 aligned with the anchoring hole; and

6                 coupling the anchoring feature to the anchoring hole with an anchoring attachment  
7 to anchor the base to the playing surface.

8

9           40. The method of claim 39, wherein moving an anchoring attachment such that the  
10 anchoring attachment couples the anchoring feature to the anchoring hole comprises rotating  
11 the anchoring attachment by hand such that the anchoring attachment is removable by hand.

12

13           41. The method of claim 39, further comprising placing an anchor within the  
14 anchoring hole.

15

16           42. The method of claim 41, wherein moving an anchoring attachment such that the  
17 anchoring attachment couples the anchoring feature to the anchoring hole comprises moving  
18 the anchoring attachment into engagement with the anchor.

19

20           43. The method of claim 41, further comprising moving a retaining member into  
21 engagement with the anchor, wherein moving an anchoring attachment such that the  
22 anchoring attachment couples the anchoring feature to the anchoring hole comprises moving  
23 the anchoring attachment into engagement with the retaining member.

1           44. The method of claim 39, wherein moving an anchoring attachment such that the  
2 anchoring attachment couples the anchoring feature to the anchoring hole comprises inserting  
3 the anchoring attachment through a bracket and through the base via the anchoring feature.

4

5           45. The method of claim 39, further comprising:  
6           forming a second anchoring hole in the playing surface;  
7           positioning the base such that a second anchoring feature of the base is substantially  
8 aligned with the second anchoring hole; and  
9           moving a second anchoring attachment such that the second anchoring attachment  
10 engages the second anchoring feature and the second anchoring hole to anchor the base to  
11 the playing surface.